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# AGAWAM

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Boldyga faces first primary challenger on Sept. 1

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Voters can head to the polls this Tuesday, Sept. 1 to decide who moves on to the general election in November to represent the Third Hampden District at the Massachusetts State House.

For the first time since being elected in 2010, State Rep. Nicholas Boldyga will be challenged in a Republican primary by Agawam City Councilor Dino Mercadante.

Boldyga was elected in 2010 when he defeated now-Agawam City Council Rosemary Sandlin. Boldyga has overcome Democratic challengers in every election since becoming state representative, including twice defeating Samuel DiSanti and once defeating Sandlin.

Boldyga is a resident of Southwick and was formerly a police officer in Connecticut. He also served on the Southwick Select Board before being elected to the state legislature.

Boldyga is one of just a few Republicans in a Democratically-dominated state legislature.

Boldyga has touted having advocated for not raising taxes and working for families to be able to afford to live in the district. He is endorsed by the Massachusetts Republican Committee.

Mercadante is a newcomer to the state arena. He is in his second term as an Agawam City Councilor as he was elected in 2017. He won re-election in 2019.

PRIMARY | page 4



City Councilor Dino Mercadante



State Rep. Nicholas Boldyga

## Debate shows aggressive race between Morse, Neal

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

SPRINGFIELD – In a showing of how ugly a primary race has gotten, Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse faced off against U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Massachusetts, in a debate broadcast on NBC last Thursday night.

The moderator in the debate did not pull any punches, attacking many of the prominent issues that have been in the media during the past several weeks.

In that period of time, Morse has viciously attacked Neal's "Washington high-life" and stated



U.S. Rep. Richard Neal



Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse

that the high-ranking representative is funded by too many corporate donors and is out of touch with the needs of his district.

Neal has countered, alleging Morse has a poor record as a School Committee chair in Holyoke, and lacks progression in many aspects as mayor of the city for the past nine years.

Neal also spoke openly and directly in this debate and one held last Monday about the allegations that his campaign tried to sabotage Morse's candidacy by leaking a letter from College Democrats of Massachusetts that state Morse was involved in

RACE | page 4

## Purple Heart awarded to area veteran



Mark Hebert, Josh Willette, State Senator John Velis, and Brian Willette Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart of Massachusetts. See page 11 for full story and more photos. PHOTO BY SHELBY MACRI

## Final free week for Agawam Advertiser

Dear Reader:

We are pleased to provide this second and final complimentary issue of The Agawam Advertiser. We hope you enjoy it.

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your convenience, but do not mean your current subscription has expired.

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Sincerely,  
Patrick Turley, Publisher

## Chamber to offer virtual job fairs this fall

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

AGAWAM – The West of the River Chamber of Commerce typically holds a job fair annually and has various fairs throughout in the year. But this year brings challenges and things will be held a bit differently. Due to the COVID pandemic the Chamber of Commerce will be holding a Virtual Job Fair instead.

The Chamber of Commerce had held a virtual job fair the during a recent storm, so while 50 to 60 people were able to connect and attend the Chamber of Commerce is expecting 300 to 400 more locals to attend the next two fairs being planned.

They're planning to do two virtual job fairs in September, the first one will be on the Sept. 22 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Though it is virtual, it will be similar to the

regular job fairs that the Chamber of Commerce holds. They have an event for the fair created on Facebook, where vendors and attendees can register, additionally both vendors and attendees can register on their website.

Vendors who register will be required to pay a small fee, though attendees can register at no cost. The Chamber of Commerce is advertising this event on Twitter,

CHAMBER | page 4



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20 PAGES

‘Stop the Spread’ COVID-19 testing site opening Aug. 26 at HCC

HOLYOKE — To assist the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the City of Holyoke in reducing the spread of COVID-19, Holyoke Community College will serve as a “Stop the Spread” drive-through testing site offering free tests to the public.

Tests will be conducted outside HCC’s Bartley Center for Athletics and Recreation and administered by Fallon Ambulance in partnership with the Holyoke Board of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Testing will be available Wednesday, August 26, through September 12, 2020, during the following hours:

Monday 7-11 a.m.  
Tuesday 2-7 p.m.  
Wednesday, 7-11 a.m.

Thursday 2-7 p.m.  
Friday 7-11 a.m.  
Saturday 7-11 a.m.

Testing will be conducted on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are no appointments. There is no cost for the tests and no referral is required.

Signs and HCC and Holyoke city Police officers will direct drivers from Homestead Ave down to M Lot (adjacent the Bartley Center), where in-car tests will be administered. Cars will leave M Lot, pass through N Lot, and exit onto the campus road and out onto Homestead Avenue.

Turnaround time for test results is typically four days or fewer.

For more information, please go to: [www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread)



Holyoke Community College will host free COVID-19 testing for the next two weeks. FILE PHOTO

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Still time to vote early in State Primary

AGAWAM – Early voting in person will be available at the Agawam Senior Center; 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA on the following dates and times:  
Thursday, August 27, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
Friday, August 28, 2020 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Pool, track to remain open longer

AGAWAM – The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department will be extending dates for the Perry Lane pool and the Agawam High School track. The Perry Lane pool originally scheduled to close on Aug. 23 will remain open daily from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. through Sunday, Aug. 30. The

Agawam High School track will remain open through Thursday, Sept. 10 with the following hours; Monday and Wednesday mornings from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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State Representative



# Pre-register for hazardous waste collection day

Headline: AGAWAM – The Agawam Department of Public Works is planning to hold its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, Sept. 12 at the DPW Annex, 1000 Suffield Street between 9 a.m. to 12 noon. This event is free to Agawam residents, but pre-registration is required. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the DPW at 821-0600 ext.0 or 821-0624 beginning Monday, Aug. 17.

Due to COVID-19, safety protocols and waste restrictions will be in place.

Participants will be required to wear a mask, remain in their vehicle, and place all waste in the trunk, rear cargo area, or truck bed.

This program offers residents a safe, economical way to dispose of household items that are flammable, reactive, corrosive or toxic. Solvents, pesticides, caustic cleaners, and oil-based paints are some examples of the different types of items that will be accepted. For a more detailed list of acceptable materials visit the town website at [www.agawam.ma.us](http://www.agawam.ma.us)

## CHAMBER ■ from page 1

Instagram, and through their newsletters to those who are subscribed. They are additionally advertising through print and their website, as they are trying to cover all bases to reach as many people as possible. Local businesses throughout Western Massachusetts area will be invited to attend and look for potential employees. The Chamber of Commerce provides them a platform to connect with possible employees, and the candidates and employers have a chance to meet and speak about the job like a typical job fair.

Executive Director Robin Wozniak explained that one of the goals of the Chamber of Commerce is to help locals find jobs, especially with the disruption of COVID.

“It’s important for us to help people get jobs, and it’s important to help local businesses connect with local people,” Wozniak said. “It’s a goal of the Chamber and we intend and keeping up on this goal.” Wozniak explained that businesses like to hire locally because those employees tend to be more reliable to the business.

Vendors will log into the event early and then attendees will log in on time. After five minutes to allow everyone to join, the fair will begin. Each vendor will have an opportunity to introduce themselves and their business, after each vendor introduces themselves, they will be put in “break off”

rooms. Attendees can pick which business they want to sit down with and will be sent to that room, each attendee will have a one on one meeting with the vendors, where a typical interview will be held. If an attendee wants to visit another room and business, they can request it and they will be sent to that room’s waiting area.

The Chamber has gotten some feedback from the vendors involved in the first virtual job fair, with many saying they enjoy the fair and think it’s a great solution. Though there have been some changes to how it can be done, the Chamber of Commerce is going to continue to provide this event. For those who are attending the fair, they should be prepared with a resume in hand to refer to during the interview process. Attendees should dress professionally from the waist up to make a good impression as they would do in person. Attendees will have a face to face conversation in the allotted room and should conduct a typical interview during this time. Attendees should be prepared with questions for the vendors, as attendees are encouraged to really get a feel for the job.

For more information as either a vendor or attendee, people can check out the Chamber of Commerce Facebook page, of their website at [www.westoftheriverchamber.com](http://www.westoftheriverchamber.com).

## PRIMARY ■ from page 1

He joined the race in order to advocate for small businesses and breathe new life into the representation on Beacon Hill.

In his time on the Agawam City Council, Mercadante has served as the chair of the Finance Committee, and serves on other sub-committees of the council. He is the owner of 911 Burgers and Dogs on North Westfield Street, a longtime business in town. He was recently endorsed by John Whalley and Robert Molta, prominent business owners in Southwick.

The winner of the Sept. 1 primary will face Democrat Kerri O’Connor in the general election on Nov. 3. O’Connor, also of Agawam, is a member of the Agawam School

Committee and is not being opposed in the primary.

The candidates clash on a number of issues, though in recent question and answer interviews, both agreed that infrastructure, helping working families, and postponing the MCAS test while the state navigates the difficulties of the coronavirus pandemic should be top priorities for the state.

The Third Hampden District represents Agawam, Southwick, Granville, and Russell.

Early voting is currently available in Agawam and dates and times are in this week’s Agawam Advertiser News.

## RACE ■ from page 1

sexual relationships with male students at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. At the time, Morse was a part-time lecturer at the school.

Neal categorically denied he or his campaign had anything to do with the story leaking just three weeks from the primary, while Morse countered simply by saying the timing was suspect, but could not offer any other proof beyond the timing and a rumor of a particular individual trying to curry favor from Neal’s camp.

That question led off the debate, and from there, the two candidates sparred hard on several issues, including a battle over the CARES act and the fact Morse opposed it.

Neal chided Morse for his attack of the CARES act, saying it brought millions of dollars to Western Massachusetts and saved many jobs, including jobs right in Morse’s home city of Holyoke. He said Morse would have been one of only five legislators to oppose the act. Morse said the CARES act did not go far enough. Morse attacked Neal’s opposition of the Green New Deal, an aggressive environmental act proposed by some Democratic House members. Morse claimed Neal is opposed to the Green New Deal because Neal’s campaign is heavily supported by fossil fuel companies. Neal countered Morse’s asser-

tions saying he supported reducing the carbon footprint, but did not believe the Green New Deal would work in its current form.

Questions surrounded economy, response to the coronavirus pandemic, and the ongoing controversy at the Holyoke Soldiers Home.

Morse frequently attacked Neal’s lack of presence in the First Congressional District of Massachusetts, while Neal attacked Morse’s lack of presence right in Holyoke. He referenced the number of school committee meetings missed while the state took over the schools, and that he was invited to be part of conference calls regarding the Soldiers Home, but Morse would either miss, or “drop out early” from the calls.

Morse said he believes a fresh face to change how politics in Washington is needed.

The two candidates will square off in the Sept. 1 primary. The First Congressional District in Massachusetts is the largest district geographically in the state, and includes most Western Massachusetts towns and cities. Please check with your local town or city clerk for early voting, mail-in voting, and in-person voting options.

Barring a strong write-in campaign, the winner of the primary is the presumptive U.S. Rep.-elect.

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# Opinion

## OUR VIEW

# It's going to be a busy fall

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
Interim Editor

So we are back in your home for another week and as interim editor of Agawam Advertiser News and the longtime sports editor, I greatly appreciate you giving this paper a read.

As you can see from last week and this week's editions, news is starting to pick up, and with the coronavirus and a presidential election still at the forefront of the mainstream media, the news that is important to you will continue to be right here in your local paper.

Just a few things that you will want to watch out for in the coming weeks in your Agawam Advertiser.

Following the Sept. 1 primary, either Nick Boldyga or Dino Mercadante will move on the general election on Nov. 3. One of those two will face Democrat Kerri O'Connor, a member of the Agawam School Committee. We will bring you coverage of that local race and up-to-date information on the two candidates that will run for your state representative in the Third Hampden District.

The Agawam City Council and Agawam School Committees will be returning to their regular meeting schedule in September.

With the need to continue to evaluate a fluid situation with the various restrictions during the pandemic, there will certainly be lots of news coming from this meeting. Those meetings are also still virtual, so look to us to provide you with stories from those meetings.

School is supposed to start in the middle of September. Agawam's school committee has voted to go with the hybrid method where students will attend school two days per week. First, watch out for our Back-To-School supplement that will be coming in a couple of weeks. Also, watch for coverage of the hybrid model of school for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

And of course, your local sports.

In this week's edition, you will read that fall sports are set to return at the end of September. With the possibility that crowds will either be significantly limited or barred altogether depending on the sport, look to our coverage for your high school sports action. We'll be out there looking to cover as many contests as possible as field hockey, golf, cross country, and girls volleyball are likely to return. Soccer is a strong possibility to return to the field, though the game will look pretty different.

Another great story to watch out for locally crosses the council, school committee, and sports arena. Next month, the city council will evaluate whether or not it wants to support the Agawam High School "Brownie" name, mascot, and colors. The Native American mascot issue is becoming a hot topic and we keep an eye on the development of it as it relates to your hometown team.

And as always, we also look to you all to help our small staff. Email us what you want to see. Email us what you need information about. Email us what you experience as you navigate the new normal, and hopefully the path to a vaccine.

Thank you again for reading, and if there's anything we can do to help you keep reading our publication, please contact us at [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).



## YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

### “Pin on a Map”

By Sadie Parrotta

Agawam, Massachusetts is a place on the periphery of New England fame. As far as trapping tourists goes, we're obviously not on the same level as Boston, Salem, or Plymouth, but we have our fair share of attractors. Most obviously, we're home to the candy-colored Six Flags New England, the largest amusement park in the region. The glowing tip of the New England Skyscraper breaks through the fog on the darkest of nights in the summer so that it can still be seen from the other shore of the Connecticut River, like a lighthouse guiding us home across the bridge after a long day's work in downtown Springfield. School children from across the Bay State come to our town to enjoy the park, but few associate the name "Agawam" with the park. Even fewer associate our name with our northern neighbor, The Big E, the fifth largest fair in North America. Yes, sadly, even though our town bears the brunt of Big E traffic every year and supplies dozens upon dozens of parking spots for the event, none of the event's fame rubs off on our zip code. Another thing: we have the lowest zip code in the country. Sure, that one's not exactly going to be a pull factor for travelers, but I'm sure that tidbit of information has probably appeared in at least one trivia booklet or "Daily Fun Fact" calendar. Anne Sullivan, the reading and arithmetic teacher to famous disability rights advocate Helen Keller, spent her childhood in Feeding Hills, though that portion of her backstory was left out of "The Miracle Worker." We're also encircled by Robinson State Park: 1,025-acres of evergreens hiding rare breeds of dragonfly and turtles. Our park is, admittedly, one of a few dozen in the state, but every single forest has unique trails, river bends, and critters to discover.

So, our town is charming, and historic, and even has a tourist trap within it, but it's not famous in New England. In fact, when I tell new people where I'm from, I usually have to refer to it as "the Six Flags Town" in order for them to pin it on the map. So, for that reason, I'm always curious to learn how out-of-staters (or even those

coming from the eastern half of the state, which is so separate in culture that it could qualify as out-of-state here in the Valley) come to settle in Agawam. One of these arrivals is one Susan Grossberg, who's been enjoying life in Agawam for the past few years since she started working in Springfield. Susan is a lawyer, a climate justice activist, and a fellow Advertiser contributor. Perhaps you've read some of her letters to the paper detailing her concerns about "...the proposed construction of a 2.1 mile natural gas pipeline through the woods and wetlands in Agawam meant to service a pipeline from Agawam to Holyoke that is no longer being built." Despite being a fresh face, Susan is already enthusiastically involving herself in her new community and the first true suburb she's ever lived in.

The charming details that characterize Agawam are too-easily missed when whizzed by in a car, which is why Susan Grossberg hopped on her bike to take her initial tours of the town. She was immediately struck by our neighborhoods of beautiful colonial-style homes along Main Street and the small family-owned farms nestled into our residential neighborhoods. The wind kisses her cheeks as she glides down the bike path that runs parallel to the Connecticut River below. Despite our town's proximity to downtown Springfield, Susan is impressed by our dedication to remaining a "...peaceful and pastoral..." community.

Hold up your left hand. You're now looking at the approximate shape of the lower peninsula of Susan's home state: Michigan. At the knuckle of your third finger is Grand Rapids, the second-largest city in the state located on the Grand River and just thirty miles from Lake Michigan. The Wikipedia list of famous figures who proudly call Grand Rapids their hometown consists of dozens of politicians, entertainers, musicians, entrepreneurs, athletes, and writers alike. Elite art museums and sculpture parks (on top of a variety of historical museums and quaint country parks) cultivate a deep, enlightened culture in the city. For the spiritual visitor, there's the glistening white towers of the

Cathedral of Saint Andrew and the minor Basilica of St. Adalbert. For the fun-loving tourist, there's sports arenas at Belknap Park, go-kart racing, and a zoo nestled in the western bluffs of the city. Grands Rapids isn't just a tourist trap: it's a cultural epicenter for the Great Lake States. It's famous. Despite all that glittering appeal, Susan has happily settled here, in a humble working town in Western Massachusetts. What compels an out-of-stater to settle in our community?

There was a Point B on the way between Point A and Point C: Boston, our capital. The Red Sox, Celtics, Bruins: the Boston Aquarium, ice-skating in the Common, Harvard Square and "clam clodah." After receiving a degree in economics from the University of Michigan, Susan traveled up North to attend Northeastern University's law school. "Boston was magical," said Susan Grossberg of her time there. "From Copley Square to the North End, to the Common and the Garden, there's so much history and beauty. Boston has a unique vibrancy and intensity. I recall the first time I drove Storrow Drive in rush hour traffic: cars crossing lanes at 50 miles an hour with inches between them. An adrenaline rush for sure!"

After graduation, Susan had a clerkship with a justice at the Massachusetts Appeals Court for a couple decades. "One of my favorite memories was looking down from my office window one dark night and seeing a solitary figure in 18th century garb holding a lantern and walking through the Granary Burial Ground. Still not sure it wasn't a ghost." With Massachusetts's kitsch-historical costume tours and plethora of colonial hauntings, I suppose it really could go either way!

Boston: another city bursting at the seams with interest-- but Susan chose Agawam. Here's the truth of it: museums, sculpture gardens, expensive restaurants and fancy commercial downtown shopping strips are all well and good, but Susan's not just looking for shiny things to keep her distracted. Cities are thrilling and ceaselessly theatric, but individuals get swallowed up by the



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FAITH MATTERS

Seasons in Life

By Deb Briancesco, RN, Pastoral Minister  
Sacred Heart Parish, Feeding Hills

I don't think that there is one person who may be reading this who doesn't have something to share about a season of their life; good, bad or indifferent. Now, may I ask you this? How many of you would share a season of your life that was impacted by God in a powerful way with the general public? You may be wondering why I am asking you this very question.....Every single one of us is asked to evangelize.....we are asked by our God, our Pope, our Priests and Deacons. This means that every single person of every walk of life, no exceptions. What does evangelize mean, it is pretty simple really. It is to share your beliefs through the readings in the gospel. Jesus did it through parables. You could do it through witnessing as to how God has impacted your life. When Covid-19 hit our

area of the country, life seemed to come to a frightening screeching halt. But through the Grace of God most of us saw it through. Those who did not, I continue to pray for their souls. Right now we are in a sweet spot; this is a time when we can come together....at a distance and with masks (outside is even better) but at least we can lay eyes on one another, this is a Grace from God. It gives us an opportunity to do what God may have laid on our heart. Sharing with one another can be a very powerful witness and a means of evangelization. God has a plan, stay strong in your faith in Jesus Christ and be open to the workings of the Holy Spirit.  
Prayer: Thank you Jesus for always being close, Thank you for holding me when I was scared, Thank you for every day you give to me, Thank you for the opportunity to spread your word and love, I do this in your most Holy Name. Amen

Stormwater Management Plan available for viewing

AGAWAM – Under the Federal Clean Water Act, municipalities throughout Massachusetts are required to reduce the amount of stormwater pollution enter our waters. The Town of Agawam received its current Phase II Stormwater NPDES permit on October 1, 2016. The intent of the regulations is to reduce the adverse impacts of water quality and aquatic habitat by controlling unregulated sources of stormwater discharges. Unregulated sources of stormwater discharges would include but not be limited to: excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from agricultural lands and residential areas, oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from urban runoff and energy production, sediment from improperly managed construction sites, crop and forest lands and eroding streams, and bacterial and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes, and faulty septic systems. The NPED Permit regulations require municipalities to develop and implement a stormwater management program that addresses six minimum control measures:  
Public Education and Outreach  
Public Involvement and participation  
Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination  
Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control  
Post-Construction Stormwater Management  
Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping  
To learn more about Agawam's Stormwater Management Program visit [www.agawam.ma.us/NPDES](http://www.agawam.ma.us/NPDES)  
Comments may be made by emailing [stormwater@agawam.ma.us](mailto:stormwater@agawam.ma.us)

HOMETOWN ■ from page 6

crowds in places like Grand Rapids and Boston. When it came to settling down, Susan's priority was finding a community that cared for each other. A place where she could get to know her neighbors: where she'd be recognized at the locally-owned shops she patroned: where she could develop new friendships by just frequenting the town's dog park. Above all, Susan's a person with a passion for her fellow people, and the grounds that they walk on together.  
A few years ago, Susan left the Massachusetts Appeals Court and took up a job at Heisler, Feldman, & McCormick, PC in Springfield. Heisler, Feldman, & McCormick, PC is a retainer-free law firm that only takes cases that fall under landlord/tenant, civil rights, and employment law which have "fee-shifting" claims. For this job, Susan was utilizing her expertise in the law to fight mostly on behalf of tenants living in deplorable, unkempt conditions who were facing evictions. How deplorable? Think sagging ceilings caving in over people's sleeping heads, cockroaches and bedbugs, and even carnivorous rats taking bites out of tenant's ankles. Some of these cases

that Susan took on were pro-bono, but the money is secondary to helping people live happily and healthily.  
Being able to fight on behalf of the underdog is gratifying work, but also frustrating. "Big damage awards didn't seem to be making much of a dent in landlord and bank behavior," explained Susan. "I started looking into what could create more fair and sustainable business practices and housing solutions."  
Lockdown has its benefits. With all this ample downtime, Susan Grossberg has been dedicating her freetime towards researching concepts such as modern monetary theory, worker-owned cooperatives, community land trusts, and public banks, all of which are ideas with the goal of benefiting the communities that they exist in as much as possible. Community truly is Susan's main motivator, which is also why she's recently started pounding the pavement in ninety degree August heat to work as a Census taker. Not only has going door to door in her town helped her to meet so many fantastic families here in Agawam, but it's also helped to strengthen her connection with her new home. "Seeing the potholes in North Agawam inspires me to

keep working in spite of the sweat running down my back and my aching feet," she says, referring to the fact that infrastructure budgets are directly linked to Census population results.  
Her passion for her community is also why she joined the Springfield Climate Justice Coalition. The tight-knit group of climate justice activists comprises residents from Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, Amherst, (of course) Agawam, and other surrounding zip codes working to keep Western Massachusetts as lush, beautiful, and healthy as possible. The coalition has the professionalism of a board meeting but the camaraderie of a class reunion: already, Susan has found her camp. The SCJC is currently focusing their energy on preventing the construction of a wood-burning biomass incinerator "...that will emit smoke and particulates in Springfield, the asthma capital of the country."  
Susan wouldn't know a vacation if it chained her ankle to a lounge chair on a luxury liner cruise. She says to me that she prefers to keep busy. Still, she has a particular relaxation ritual that she's loyal to. "I love to take walks in Robinson State Park," she explains enthusiastically. "You'll see me walk-

ing my dog, Lucy, through the woods there every morning. She keeps the squirrels (and particularly the chipmunks) on their toes!" Lucy is a seven year-old boxer-lab mix: fifty pounds of rescued love and excitable puppy energy. "She's a very sweet, well-mannered girl. Great with kids, and loves to chase and wrestle with other dogs."  
There's a "lake-effect" in Grand Rapids that brings about humid summers and mountains of snow in the winter... comparable to the seasons here in the Pioneer Valley! Cumbersome, certainly, but to Susan the weather here is reminiscent of her old home. Agawam, Massachusetts is her new home now, though, and she truly feels like this is where she's meant to be.  
Agawam doesn't need to be famous. We don't need the neck-break pace of the city or the racing highways. We don't need the plethora of expensive attractions to keep tourists opening their wallets. Out-of-staters choose to settle in "little ol'e" Agawam because once they get a taste for our intimate suburban lifestyle, they don't want to retreat back into the chattering faceless crowds of the cities. Agawam doesn't need to be labeled as a big-circle pin on a paper map to be someplace special.

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# Streaming performance to kick off ‘Applause Series’

AGAWAM – Since its inception seventeen years ago, the Agawam Cultural Council’s Applause Series has grown steadily in popularity to become a much-anticipated annual event. Bringing our community together through cultural events is more important now than ever, and the new season begins in a safe, and virtual, way on Friday, September 4, 2020. On that evening, Sheryl Faye’s videotaped portrayal of Abigail Adams – America’s First, Second Lady, will be presented on the Town of Agawam’s public access channel (Agawam TV15) at 7:00 pm. The performance will also be streamed from the “Watch” button on [www.agawam-media.tv](http://www.agawam-media.tv) for those residing outside of Agawam. Those who wish to watch on a smart device at a different time should email [r.kadis@comcast.net](mailto:r.kadis@comcast.net) for a link and password for the performance. There is a two-hour window from 7:00 – 9:00 pm when the approximate 35-minute program will be available. It is recommended that viewers begin watching no later than 8:15 pm.

Since 2003, Sheryl Faye has masterfully brought to life important historical women in performances across the United States. Her one-woman shows immerse the audience in a multimedia learning experience that captivates viewers and sparks their interest to explore more. Abigail Adams is sometimes considered to have been a founder of the United States and is now designated as the first Second Lady and second First Lady of The United States. Adams’s life is one of the most documented of the first ladies: she is remembered for the many letters she wrote to her husband while he was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, during the Continental Congresses. John Adams frequently sought the advice of Abigail on many matters, and their letters are filled with intel-

lectual discussions on government and politics. In one of her more famous letters she implores her husband and his colleagues, all of whom were male, to, “...remember the ladies...If particular care and attention is not paid to the Ladies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or Representation.” Her letters also serve as eyewitness accounts of the American Revolutionary War home front. This presentation begins with Abigail Adams’ life as an adult, travels back to her childhood, and then back to her adult life and is appropriate for both children and adults.

In lieu of the free will donations the Agawam Cultural Council (ACC) normally accepts at the conclusion of all its events, (which support fully 40% of the cost of each performance), the council asks viewers to consider making a properly “socially distanced” donation to support efforts to “Give Back to the Community” by visiting the ACC web site [www.agawamcc.org](http://www.agawamcc.org) and clicking on the green “Donate” button. A check in any amount, payable to the Agawam Cultural Council, may also be sent to: Agawam Cultural Council, Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam MA 01001.

For more information on the activities and virtual offerings of the Agawam Cultural Council during the stay-at-home order, please visit their web site, [www.agawamcc.org](http://www.agawamcc.org). The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and is funded, in part, by the MCC. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

# Town of Agawam announces new business growth

AGAWAM – The Town of Agawam continues to expand its business community. Today, Mayor Sapelli announces the addition of multiple new developments in Agawam, which has positioned itself as one of the premier cities for business development in Western Massachusetts.

Renewable energy is becoming a growth business sector in Agawam. There are currently two large solar arrays being constructed in Feeding Hills. Consolidate Edison (Con Ed) is leasing approximately 68 acres of the former Tuckahoe Turf Farm to construct a 4.7 MW system. On Shoemaker Lane, Engie is building a 5.0 MW system. Additionally, Vanguard Renewables, which converts food waste into clean, renewable energy, is constructing a 13,200sf building that will house its anaerobic biodigester at the former Southworth Paper Company location.

“The Town of Agawam prides itself on being business-friendly and will continue to support business expansion and relocation to Agawam,” said Mayor Sapelli. “The renewable energy sector is growing exponentially in Massachusetts and we are thrilled to be at the forefront of that growth

in Western Massachusetts.”

The South Westfield Street corridor in Feeding Hills is also experiencing a construction boom. The Villas at Pine Crossing, which is a 55-and-older condo development featuring 44 units is currently under construction. Not far away, DePalma Realty is constructing two buildings—a 9,100sf retail space along with a 7,440sf professional office building. Those projects will benefit from two infrastructure improvement projects currently under construction at Feeding Hills Center and also near the intersection of South Westfield and Pine Street.

The Morgan-Sullivan Bridge is also currently being rebuilt and will expand the number of travel lanes and include new sidewalks and multi-modal travel lanes. This \$21.5M MassDOT project, which is scheduled to be completed in Summer 2021, will create opportunities for even more new business growth within the town’s District Improvement Financing (DIF) district.

Ace Precision, Inc. is also constructing a 20,000-square foot building—the first of their three-parcel commercial subdivision on upper Suffield Street.

# Tapestry returns with more COVID testing



Testing will continue to take place at Agawam Junior High School through Sept. 10. PHOTO BY SHELBY MACRI

AGAWAM - Tapestry will be providing additional COVID-19 testing in Agawam to support Governor Baker’s Stop the Spread testing initiative. “This is a critical time to ramp up testing in order to contain the virus and hopefully avoid the secondary surges that have happened in other states,” said Cheryl Zoll, Tapestry CEO.

Testing will be drive-through, free, and available for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. Testing will be done via a self-administered nasal swab and results will be available within 48 hours. Appointments and pre-registration

are encouraged, but walk-ins will not be turned away if there is capacity. Please call (413)364-2149 for scheduling. More information available at [tapestryhealth.org](http://tapestryhealth.org) or [mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread](http://mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread)

Where: Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01001

When: Testing will be offered from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. on dates listed below

- Tuesday, Sept. 1
- Thursday, Sept. 3
- Tuesday, Sept. 8
- Thursday, Sept. 10

## ARREST LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 420 calls for service from Aug. 17 to Aug. 23 and recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

### Monday, Aug. 17

Victor Rivera-Rojas, 32, of 177 Johnson St., Springfield, was arrested at 2:03 a.m. on a warrant.

John Charles Marcotte, 38, of 63 Plantation Dr., Agawam, was arrested at 7:47 p.m. for operating with a suspended license as a result of an OUI.

# Grants for nonprofits financially impacted by COVID-19

SPRINGFIELD – The Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts has announced its next stage of its COVID-19 response effort in the Pioneer Valley, launching stabilization grants for nonprofits that have been financially impacted by the pandemic. With these new stabilization grants, the Foundation is also committing to a multi-year approach to focus on the resilience, re-envisioning and rebuilding of nonprofits in the region.

Applications for are currently being accepted, and the deadline for applications is Sept.1. Maximum grant awards will be \$50,000 and will provide for up to six months of operation.

Organizations with various missions and target populations will be eligible to apply for Stabilization Grants, though organizations that serve the most vulnerable populations in the region, work to advance equity and opportunity and have deep roots in the community will be prioritized.

In the coming months, CFWM will provide workshops and trainings to assist non-

profits as they evolve to remain active and viable during and post COVID-19.

The Foundation will also commit a portion of funding to support organizations whose missions align with the CFWM’s strategic priorities for the coming years: A strong start for all children through high-quality early education and care; accessible and more affordable post-secondary education and training, providing pathways to completion and employment; and a vibrant local arts and creativity ecosystem to support self-expression, economic vitality, and connection.

The grants serve as a next phase to CFWM’s COVID-19 Response Fund for the Pioneer Valley, which to date has awarded more than \$6 million in grants to nonprofits in Western Massachusetts that are on the front lines of serving vulnerable populations affected by the crisis.

To learn more about CFWM’s Stabilization Grants and to apply, visit <http://communityfoundation.org/covid-funding-application/>.



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# Schools preparing for students' return

According to surveys, nearly 80 percent of students will utilize hybrid learning

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam Schools decided to do a Hybrid program while going back to school this Fall, so students will be partially in school and partially online. Interim Superintendent of Schools Shelia Hoffman says two distinct groups of students who will attend school in person on different days of the week.

The groups were divided simply by the alphabet, with students with last names A-K the first group, and L-Z the second group. The hybrid schedule will see the first group attending school in person on Monday and Tuesday, while the second group will attend school in person on Thursday and Friday. All students will partake in remote classes on Wednesday, and when students are not attending school in person, they will be attending remotely.

Preparations being made to accommodate students coming back to school. Personal protective equipment has been purchased, along with sanitation stations, plexiglass shields have been installed, devices for both students and teachers have been ordered, and software for assessing students with an adaptive learning system has been researched. Surveys were sent out to students in grades 5 and 6 as well as 9 through 12, to ask about the students remote learning experience. A parent survey was also sent to ask key questions about parents particular circumstances in the fall to accommodate with parents.

Additional preparations for the schools include cleaning and disinfecting, as these protocols have been updated to better fit CDC and DESE guidelines. In addition to routine regular cleaning, high-touch common area surfaces as well as bathroom surfaces will be disinfected throughout the school day. Shared spaces and furniture

will be disinfected nightly for the upcoming school day. The disinfecting of bathrooms will be logged, and logs will be kept by the Building Maintenance Department. Disinfection will be performed using ready spray bottles and electrostatic backpack sprayers.

“Electrostatic disinfection is a quick and easy way to achieve 360-degree touches disinfection using positive and negative changes to make disinfecting solutions electromagnetically stick to targeted surfaces,” Hoffman said.

Ventilation will also be updated in order for students to return, as unit ventilators for all schools have been cleaned, inspected, and received a filter change by staff over the summer. Increased ventilation rates and the opening of outside dampers to 100% as outside air will be applied where feasible. Air conditioning units will have coils inspected and cleaned if necessary, as well as having filters changed before the start of school. Filters are changed four times a year throughout the school buildings. Ventilation exhaust fans at all the schools have been inspected, had necessary parts replaced, and new units were installed to replace outdated and under-performing exhaust fans. These changes were made to ensure these systems properly operate when students return.

There will be touches bottle filling stations installed in each building, while traditional water fountains will be temporarily turned off. The school buildings water systems have been flushed, as the purpose of flushing includes replacing all the water inside buildings piping with fresh water. Flushing will occur one more time before the schools reopen to students. There have also been movement protocols created within faculties. The Administration has developed these protocols to avoid crowding, maintaining groups, and to minimize unnecessary person to person interactions.

This includes plans for arrival and departure, transitions between classes, bathroom breaks, as well as outlying one-way movement pathways for hallways and the cafeteria.

There will also be signage posted, as Agawam schools will ensure that clear and age-appropriate signage will be posted in highly visible locations throughout the schools property. This will remain so students and staff follow proper health and safety protocols. They include wearing masks, hand sanitizing, and social distancing. Teaching and learning professional development has been developed to support teachers in a hybrid learning and instruction model. Back-to-School videos being made by each school to be shared with students and their families.

The current timeline of the school year is still under discussion, though with additional planning days added to the beginning of September the department is still working with the AEA to determine what the actual first day will be. Hoffman explains that she hopes to have this information soon, and that school will not start for students before Sept. 11 but not later than Sept.16.

The Superintendent’s Office has gotten more than 3,000 responses from family surveys. According to the surveys they have received, 79.1 percent of respondents have chosen the hybrid, in-person model, while the remainder are going with remote learning. These choices will be flexible during the next couple of weeks as school will begin to open. Additionally, survey results represent approximately 81% of the student population. Also, reasonable accommodations will be made for teachers who have personal health risk issues, and this is in accordance with the ADA. The school is still waiting for more surveys to come in and will continue to get school buildings ready.

# Parks and Rec announces 2020 Youth Field Hockey

AGAWAM – This program is restricted to Agawam and Feeding Hills residents. Girls in grades 1-8 (20-21 school year) will learn the fundamental skills, techniques, and strategies of Field Hockey while practicing and playing in this fun program.

Girls will be broken into four different divisions: Online Registration Grades 1 & 2 Mites August 26 - September 3 \$50 Grades 3 & 4 Bantam August 26 - September 3 \$50 Grades 5 & 6 Junior August 26 - September 3 \$50 Grades 7 & 8 Senior August 26 - September 3 \$50 Online registration begins on Wednesday, August 26 at 8:30AM. Online registration ends on Thursday, September 3 at 9:00PM. No registration will be accepted after Thursday, September 3.

To access online payments and registration log onto agawam.ma.us, then go to the Parks and Recreation Department page, then click on the “Online Payments & Registration” button, then click on agree. This will send you to the Unipay Gold site where you can select specific program registration under transactions. Practices will begin the first week of September and games will be played on Saturdays and Sundays beginning October 3.

Face coverings/masks will be required at all practices and games. Only one parent/guardian will be allowed at the field for each game. More detailed safety protocols will be given to all players and parents at practice. Players need to supply their own stick, goggles, shin guards, mouthpiece, and face covering. For more information, please contact the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department located at 1000 Suffield Street or at 821-0513. For more updates/information/announcements join the Agawam Youth Field Hockey FaceBook page.

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

# Mercadante Garner's Council Endorsements



-Chris is a practicing attorney and a partner at Johnson, Scalfani & Moriarty. Chris currently serves as President of the Agawam City Council. He served as Agawam's first Mayor and previously served as Chair of the Agawam School Committee. He previously served on the Board of Trustees at STCC, and on the Board of Directors at Mass Housing.

**"I have enjoyed serving with Dino on the Agawam City Council. During that time, Dino has demonstrated his commitment to the people of Agawam. He brings a straight forward, common sense approach to local government. I am confident that he will bring that same dedication and approach to the State House representing the Third Hampden District. Agawam really needs a new and strong voice in the House of Representatives. We need someone who will listen to our concerns and fight for issues that affect our community and the district. We need someone like Dino Mercadante."**




-Gerry is the former owner of the Agawam Auto School. He was an Agawam High school coach and teacher. Gerry has been inducted into the Massachusetts Coaches Hall of Fame, the Agawam High School Hall of Fame and the Agawam baseball field has been named in his honor. He is currently serving in his first term on the Agawam City Council.

**"Dino Mercadante will make a great State Representative. I have worked with Dino as a City Councilor and have seen firsthand his ability as a legislator. Dino is dependable. He has never missed a Council or Subcommittee meeting. Dino works tirelessly. He has always made himself available to his constituents. He listens, thinks and votes his conscience."**



-Bob is a longtime City Councilor and public servant.

**"Dino Mercadante is a friend and colleague on the Agawam City Council. I have always known him to be a strong and independent voice, one that focuses on results, not chance, to ensure that our system of government actually works for the people; to protect our future and preserve our quality of life. I have no doubt that Dino will earn your respect, your trust and your vote, as I have. Please, join me in voting for Dino Mercadante, our next State Representative."**



-Paul has worked for 30 years for the Agawam High School as counselor, educator and principal. He served on the Agawam School Committee for 2-terms and is presently in his 6th term on the Agawam City Council

**"It has been an honor to get to know Dino and his love for this community over the last 3 years. I have greatly enjoyed our conversations about how we can move forward to make this a better town to live, work and raise a family. Dino is a true ally for our community and I know, if he is elected State Representative, he will work tirelessly for our collective good. I hope you will join me in voting for Dino Mercadante for State Representative of Agawam, Southwick and Granville."**



-Anthony is co-owner of Nikolai Home Improvements. He is currently in his 4th term on the Agawam City Council and serves as Chair of the Legislative Committee and Vice-Chair of the Community Relations Committee.

**"I have known Dino and his family for years. He is an honest, hard working man of integrity. He is not afraid of a 12-hour work day or a 7-day work week. He has a willingness to meet every task head on, and a desire to work with anyone, Republican or Democrat, for the betterment of his community. I know that he can bring the energy and hard work that he has brought to his business and to the Agawam City Council to Beacon Hill. I look forward to voting for Dino Mercadante for State Representative of the Third Hampden District, and I hope you will join me."**

## State Representative Third Hampden District

.....

## VOTE SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 Republican Primary

Early, in-person voting: August 22 - 28, 2020

**"Independent/Unenrolled and Republican voters, I need your support in the September 1st Republican Primary for State Representative. As a lifelong conservative, I look forward to bringing this seat back to Agawam and getting to work for you!"**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Dino Mercadante

## A New Voice for Agawam, Southwick and Granville!



# Performers entertain at Heritage Woods

AGAWAM – Since dance is a performing art, the Mary Ann Studio of Dance believes in sharing the students love of dance to more than the friends and family that come to the year-end show. Recently the Mary Ann dancers did just that, with a visit to Heritage Woods to entertain the residents there. For the adults and teens who came to dance this is something that they'd done for many years, these dancers could show off their precision in tap shoes, and how they handled props (such as tambourines and capes) that enhanced their dances. Not only did these Mary Ann dancers perform for the residents, they also took the time to mingle with the residents after the show. Then there were the younger dancers, this was a great practice to pre-

pare them for the much larger audience at their year-end show, and among the younger dancers were the 'small fry' dancers (age 2) who were performing for the very first time out in public. These little girls enjoyed being in front of an audience, and they too showed what it was like to perform with their apple props. In hindsight this turned out to be a very special performance for the Mary Ann dancers, as a mere 2 weeks later Heritage Woods, along with so many other senior facilities and nursing homes, were ordered into quarantine as we all prepared for the dreaded virus to hit. The Mary Ann Studio of Dance staff and dancers hope that everyone stays well, and we look forward to the day we can all get out there and dance, dance, dance for you again.



Erikah Jenney and Emily Scott perform a jazz number to High Hopes.



Emily Scott, of Feeding Hills, and Erikah Jenney perform their Devil Went Down to Georgia tap number. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Heritage Woods resident Fred Bliss enjoys doing the polka with his daughter, dance instructor, April Mosher.

## \$1.5 million grant to address substance use prevention

Will address alcohol, nicotine, marijuana

By Eileen Kennedy  
Staff writer

REGION – The Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance has received a federal strategic prevention grant, which will provide \$1.5 million over five years to work with youth and young adults to prevent their use of alcohol, nicotine and marijuana, according to Gail Gramarossa, facilitator for QHSUA. The alliance is part of the Quaboag Hills Community Coalition.

The grant will provide \$300,000 a year, she said. It was the awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is a Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success grant and will focus on youth 18 and under and young adults 19 to 25-years-old, she said. It will use evidence-based curricula, she said, to focus on preventing the use of alcohol, nicotine and marijuana.

**Go Purple Quabbin Youth Initiative**  
Program Director Nehr Jenkins said the grant would help towns build their own very locally-focused substance use prevention groups and alliances in their individual towns, and still be part of the Alliance and the Coalition.

"A community, such as Palmer, which has no such group and definitely has a substance use issue could create their own group," she said. "Really, each individual town can bring their own people together."

The region for both the Coalition and the Alliance is spread out over three counties, including Brimfield, Holland, Monson, Palmer and Wales in Hampden County, Ware and Belchertown in Hampshire County and Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Warren and West Brookfield in

Worcester County. The same towns will be covered by the new federal grant.

"It's broader and wider than our previous work," Gramarossa said. She was referring in part to a five-year federal Drug Free Communities grant the Alliance received, which has provided \$125,000 each year and focused on working with the schools to reach students and parents to prevent opioid use. The grant is in its fifth year.

The new grant will need about five staff positions to carry out the grant and Gramarossa recruited those attending the Zoom meeting on Aug. 10 to serve on an interviewing and hiring committee. The grant starts on Aug. 31. Ware will be the financial agent for this grant as it was for the Drug Free Communities grant, she said.

**Alcohol use campaign**  
It's possible the next time area residents tune in to Pandora, the music streaming application, they may hear messages from the Alliance regarding the increased use of alcohol by both young people and grownups.

The Alliance worked with a marketing company to create messages about it that will play on Pandora, post on social media sites, and place in print publications reminding parents of the danger of leaving alcohol unsecured where young people could get to it. It will also ask young people to pledge not to use the substances. The campaign information is also on the Alliance's website at <https://qhsua.org/>.

Gramarossa said nationally there has been an increase in the use of alcohol by youth and grownups, and it is important to make youth, parents and the communities aware that it's occurring.

The Alliance also has campaign information postcards it will hand out at events as well as flyers, rack cards and lawn signs.

They are also offering training for those who own or work liquor stores, including what a server's liabilities are if they over serve patrons and what to look for in a person's identification to be sure it is legitimate.

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SEPT. 29 - SEINFELD TRIVIA  
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# Purple Heart awarded to area veteran

By **Shelby Macri**  
smacri@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Military Order of the Purple Heart Department of Massachusetts organized and attended a ceremony to present the Purple Heart to the family of Master Sergeant Luis F. DeLeon-Figueroa. The U.S. Army Master Sergeant DeLeon-Figueroa, was a killed in action in Afghanistan on Friday, Aug. 21, 2019.

DeLeon-Figueroa was a Chicopee native, and was celebrated last Friday for receiving the Purple Heart. Those in attendance included VFW State Commander Russell Jobe, past State Commander of the VFW Massachusetts Eric Segundo, other Purple heart recipients Dave Brown, John Hurley, and Steve Sawyer. A few attendees spoke about Figueroa and the work he did within the Army, saying he was a dedicated and kindhearted person. Additionally, State Senator John Velis attended the ceremony and said a few words in his honor. The Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart of Massachusetts, Brian Willette, lead the ceremony and presented the Purple Heart to the Foster family of Figueroa.

Members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart attended the ceremony, including Carole Devine, JoAnn Munier, Barbara Hebert, and Dolly Sawyer, they watched as Figueroa and his family received the Purple Heart after waiting a year. The Military Order of the Purple Heart pre-

sented the Purple Heart to Master Sergeant DeLeon-Figueroa's family at his gravesite in the Agawam Veterans Cemetery. The Purple Heart is America's oldest military decoration created by General George Washington for military merit. It was created on August 7, 1782, and is a decoration awarded to members of the military who are wounded or killed in combat caused directly by enemy action.

Master Sergeant DeLeon-Figueroa was honored and remembered during the ceremony, as Mark Hebert played Taps on the bugle, and members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart placed flags and red poppy flowers in remembrance of a fallen brother. While Purple Heart members, recipients, and VFW State Commanders saluted to the remembrance; family members bowed their heads and listened to the song.

Members of DeLeon-Figueroa's family attended the ceremony, to watch as the Purple Heart was presented to Figueroa's parents. After the Military Order of the Purple Heart of Massachusetts presented red poppy flowers in remembrance and awarded the Purple Heart, Figueroa's mother Lisa Campbell said a few words. "Before coming here today I was thinking of the word honor, in the bible and as one of the Commandments it says to honor one's mother and father," Campbell said. "He honored us by being a Master Sergeant in the Army. He was so humble; he never told us about all the things he was honored and awarded with. My heart will be purple now, for him."



VFW State Commander Russell Jobe prepares to speak. PHOTOS BY SHELBY MACRI



Dignitaries at the event salute the flag.



Steve Sawyer, a Purple Heart recipient of the Vietnam War, places a purple heart flag on the grave of Master Sergeant Luis DeLeon-Figueroa.



Bill Campbell, Ryan Campbell, and Lisa Campbell gather after the Purple Heart Ceremony.



Brian Willette and Eric Segundo fold the American flag.

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**PORK SHOULDER PICNIC**..... **85¢** lb

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**DOMESTIC HAM**..... **\$2.92** lb

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**BEEF**..... **\$6.99** **PORK**..... **\$4.99**

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USDA INSP. FRESH  
**CHICKEN BREAST BONE-IN**.....10 LB BAG **99¢** lb

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**BONELESS CHICKEN THIGH**.....TRAY PAK **\$1.25** lb

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**CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS**.. **55¢** ea

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# SPORTS

## AWARDS

## Coaches honored by MIAA

AGAWAM – The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is pleased to announce the coaches from MIAA member schools who were selected this year by a subcommittee of MIAA Coaches' Education Instructors.

The award seeks to recognize and honor "teacher coaches" who have had an impact on the lives of student-athletes, by encouraging them to succeed and by helping them develop self-confidence, ambition, a sound work ethic, and other skills or values necessary or helpful for success in their later lives. Award candidates should

have a record of encouraging student-athletes to be well-rounded (i.e. displaying excellence in areas of scholarship, citizenship, fine arts, etc.), as well as a reputation, among their peers and the athletic community, for fair play, good sportsmanship, and the development of these attributes in their student-athletes.

The 2019-20 honorees are the tenth class of MIAA Coach of the Year Award recipients. Please see below for the list of honorees and their coaching philosophies. Congratulations to the 2019-2020 MIAA Coach of the Year Recipi-

ents!

Two of the coaches are from Agawam High School this year:

### Field Hockey

KAREN GOMEZ, Agawam High School: "Athletics is an extension of the classroom. Athletes are students first. I take a mastery approach to sport rather than a scoreboard approach. It is my goal to teach athletes to put forward hard work and maximum effort, continuously learn and improve, and not let themselves be stopped by mistakes or fear of mistakes. I encourage my student-athletes to love yourself, love the game, have fun, and give back to others."

### Softball

KATHY GEORGINA, Agawam High School: "Athletics are an essential part of the student's learning experience. Many of the lessons learned through participation in athletics are life lessons that can be carried over into all aspects of life such as developing a strong work ethic, teamwork skills, cooperation, determination and most importantly how to succeed and how to build the character to lose gracefully. Athletics are an integral part of building self-confidence and selflessness and build pride that teaches students to be part of something bigger than just themselves."



Karen Gomez, Agawam High School field hockey coach.



Kathy Georgina, Agawam High School softball coach. FILE PHOTOS

## FALL SPORTS

## Agreement reached to bring back high school sports

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

REGION – Under a joint plan from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, there will be a high school sports season this school year.

In fact, there will be four. The MIAA Board of Directors agreed to add a fourth "floating" or "bubble" season that could encompass sports that are not able to be played during the fall or winter seasons. The floating season is supposed to take place mainly during March 2021, and will feature football as the most prominent sport being played during that time.

However, under the official vote, the final dates for the final three seasons will be determined at a later date by the MIAA.

The fall season will begin on Sept. 18. The MIAA had at first,

FALL SPORTS | page 13

## Youth baseball clinic

PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Holyoke City Councilor and former HCC baseball coach Terry Murphy has been hosting baseball clinics for area youth for the past few weeks. Unlike his normal summer league, there are no games being played due to the current restrictions during the pandemic, but clinics have been allowed to take place. Murphy said he wanted to give kids the opportunity to stay in shape and work on skills while games are not able to be played. His clinics drew more than 30 kids from all over the region and he said he has been asked to extend the clinics into September.





Sports

Bay State games launches 32nd year of Future Leaders Scholarship

REGION – The Bay State Games is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2020 Future Leaders Scholarship Program. This marks the thirty-second year of this valuable scholarship program that recognizes the leaders of tomorrow who excel in academics, community service, and athletics. The scholarship program is available to any Massachusetts High School student in the class of 2021. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 Summer Games, participation in the Bay State Games is not required but is recommended. Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to the top applicants.

“Bay State Games is proud to provide valuable college scholarships to student-athletes representing high schools and communities from across Massachusetts,” said Bay State Games Executive Director, Kevin Cummings. “While the COVID-19 pandemic impacted our traditional spring timeframe for this scholar-

ship, we have moved the process to the fall to ensure that students in the class of 2021 will still have access to this opportunity. I encourage all former Bay State Games Summer and Winter Games participants currently entering their senior year of high school to apply.”

Candidates must submit their application information online by October 15, 2020. The selection process will begin with a review of each student’s application, written recommendations, and transcripts. A number of students will then be selected for virtual interviews which will be conducted the week of November 9. At the conclusion of interviews, six statewide scholarship winners will be announced.

Additional information on the scholarship and a link to an application form can be found at [www.baystategames.org/future-leaders-scholarship](http://www.baystategames.org/future-leaders-scholarship).

For questions, email [info@baystategames.org](mailto:info@baystategames.org) or call 781-932-6555.

MIAA signs multi-year partnership with Power Add company

FRANKLIN – The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) has signed a multi-year partnership with the Power Ad Company to become the Official School Solutions Partner of the MIAA. The comprehensive partnership will include an integrated marketing presence throughout the year, enabling the Power Ad Company to connect with and support MIAA member schools.

“The MIAA is honored to partner with the Power Ad Company, a leading provider of solutions to schools throughout the country,” said MIAA Executive Director Bill Gaine. “I believe our member schools across the state will find value in the products that The Power Ad Company offers. In particular, their antimicrobial products providing 90-day protection from COVID-19 should be a great benefit, as schools plan for reopening.”

The Power Ad Company has been help-

ing high schools throughout America since 1996. Based in Franklin, Ohio, the company provides a variety of solutions for schools, including:

BioShield™75 Antimicrobial Protection and One & Done Facemasks™

Athletic Department Sponsorship Fundraising Programs including NFHS Network sponsorship sales

Scoreboards, Scoretables, Video Screens & More

“The Power Ad Company is excited to partner with the MIAA,” said Jennifer West-erfield, Owner and Senior Vice President of the Power Ad Company. “We are looking forward to helping schools reopen in a way that will not only go the extra mile to protect their students and staff, but will also save the school districts a lot of money by using a product (BioShield™75) that will kill microbes up to 90 days in a single applica-tion.”

Pioneers announce tryouts for upcoming season

LUDLOW – WUP FC is proud to hold tryouts for the 2020-2021 season. Try-outs are for Boys and Girls of all age groups including an open house for younger ages:

Developmental Academy: players born in 2013-2015

First Kick: players born in 2016

This registration session will allow you to complete contact information, and sign up for participation. Please read through

each page carefully to ensure that all information is provided accurately.

To ensure we can create the safest environment for your player due to COVID19 precautions, we are still working on exact dates and times to conduct tryouts for the 2020-2021 season. Players may be invited to smaller training sessions and/or limited attendance tryout venues. You will be notified with options via email.

Advanced Gas Distributors Wade Cole Memorial 200

WINCHESTER, N.H. – After a week off, action will return to Monadnock Speedway as it hosts the Wade Cole Memorial 200 on Saturday evening. Here are details of this weekend’s event.

Divisions: NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour (200 Laps), NHSTRA Modifieds , Street Stock, Pro Truck Series, Mini Stocks, Pure Stocks

Pit Gate Opens at 11 a.m. for Whelen

Modified Tour Teams, Noon for Monadnock Speedway Teams. Pit Admissions (\$40) - Practice at 2:00 PM - Time Trials at 5:00 PM

Main Grandstands Opens at 1:00 p.m. (No Early Entry Allowed Before Main Ticket Booth Opens). Adults \$35, Seniors (65+) \$30, Ages 11-18 \$15 and Ages 10 & Under \$5. Due to limited Capacity - Advanced Tickets are highly recommended.

FALL SPORTS ■ from page 12

postponed the fall preseason to Sept. 14, but when school was postponed, the MIAA wanted to allow school to begin before allowing extracurricular activities.

Under the proposal, golf, cross country, field hockey, gymnastics, girls volleyball, and soccer will be allowed to play and have full contests under special guidelines that would take into account safe practices, social distancing and limited contact.

Football, at this time, would involve too much contact and this the sport will be limited to just practice only, along with cheer-leading, and unified basketball, a sport that recently began playing in the fall season.

The winter season would consist currently of the typical winter sports offered, like swimming, basketball, hockey, wrestling, and indoor track. However, if the pandemic continues to dictate restrictions, it’s possible the higher contact sports, like basketball and hockey, could either be postponed or pushed to the floating season.

The EEA, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, is currently issuing the guidance for the various sports. The sports that are deemed a more moderate risk, will have make changes to the way games are played in order to be allowed to play.

Most of the changes are made in order to help with social distancing or to signifi-

cantly limit contact.

The most adversely affected sport could be soccer, as contact is close and while not as direct as football, does involve a moderate level of contact where two or three people are close to one another.

Another group that could be playing sports in the floating season are schools that do not participate in fall or winter sports due to their individual district going with remote learning. School Committees will have to vote on whether their high schools will be allowed to participate in interscholastic sports while they are in full remote learning. Holyoke, Springfield, Longmeadow, and East Longmeadow are among the districts that have voted to go fully remote in Western Massachusetts.

Other schools that stand to risk losing seasons are those classified in the red category under the governor’s risk map for COVID. Right now, South Hadley is the only Western Massachusetts town currently in the red category. Holyoke and Granby were previously in the red, but were removed from that designation last Wednesday.

The MIAA plans to keep a close watch on data and frequently evaluate the situation, including if and when a vaccine is made available for COVID-19, allowing sports play to resume normally.

LABOR DAY DEADLINES

All Advertising Deadlines for the week of Sept. 7-11 will be

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4 AT NOON



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	69							70						

CLUES ACROSS

1. Slopes  
7. Attacks  
13. One who has left prison  
14. Goes against  
16. Atomic #37  
17. Home of The Beatles  
19. Mac alternative  
20. A common boundary with  
22. Fluid in a plant  
23. Genus that includes scads  
25. Longer of the forearm bones  
26. Gradually disappears  
28. At risk assessor  
29. Type of whale  
30. Jaws of a voracious animal  
31. Patriotic women (abbr.)  
33. Ancient Egyptian God  
34. Obsessed with one's appearance  
36. Erase

38. A type of smartie  
40. Nostrils  
41. Influential French thinker  
43. Popular K-pop singer  
44. One point south of due east  
45. Payroll company  
47. Moved quickly on foot  
48. Bar bill  
51. An idiot  
53. Indicates silence  
55. Protein-rich liquids  
56. Rhythmic patterns  
58. Scatter  
59. Belongs to bottom layer  
60. Impulsive part of the mind  
61. Carousel  
64. Type of degree  
65. Ornamental molding  
67. Locks in again  
69. Sounds the same  
70. Come into view

CLUES DOWN

1. Speak rapidly  
2. Trauma center  
3. River in W. Africa  
4. Ancient Greek district  
5. Bulgaria's monetary unit  
6. Children's ride  
7. Absorbed liquid  
8. Markets term  
9. Retail term recording sales  
10. Automaton  
11. Spanish form of "be"  
12. Divide  
13. Malaysian sailing boat  
15. Writers  
18. Cool!  
21. Popular tourist attraction studio  
24. Sets free  
26. An enthusiastic devotee of sports  
27. Unhappy  
30. Alternate term for Holy Scripture  
32. Influential French scholar

35. What thespians do  
37. Local area network  
38. Free from contamination  
39. Coastal region of Canada  
42. Sun up in New York  
43. High schoolers' exam  
46. Fathers  
47. Call it a career  
49. Suitable for growing crops  
50. Rose-red variety of spinel  
52. Orange-brown in color  
54. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks  
55. Late TNT sportscaster  
57. A way to wedge  
59. Cold, dry Swiss wind  
62. Hockey players need it  
63. Something highly prized  
66. Atomic #45  
68. Top lawyer





A recent patient returning to their owner after being seen at Second Chance's North Brookfield Community Veterinary Hospital. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Curbside services offered for animals

SPRINGFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services is rising to the challenges presented by COVID-19, continuing to innovate for the health of Massachusetts pets. Last month the nonprofit's three veterinary hospitals found a way to safely restore lifesaving vaccine clinics and put a plan in place to cut down on the significant backlog of pets waiting for spay/neuter surgery.

Second Chance had to put their popular weekly vaccine clinics on hold indefinitely in March to safeguard the health of pet owners and staff. In July, they slowly rolled out a new format where pet owners pre-register and arrive at their reserved time slot. "We thought this was a temporary fix, but pet owners loved the new format," reports Second Chance Chief Operating Officer Amanda Normandin. "No more waiting in line, no more filling out paperwork while minding a pet, and so much less stress on the pets."

The nonprofit's low-cost spay/neuter program continues to face a backlog of pets waiting due to an almost 3-month suspension. The wait for cats is especially significant, so in July the North Brookfield location began scheduling catch up days, starting with a 50 male cat day. Second Chance surgeons are specially trained in high-volume spay/neuter, but typically see a mix of female cats and dogs each day resulting in extra time spent resetting between cats and dogs and male and female. Concentrating on a single surgery format allows veterinary staff to help more

pets in one day.

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato says she's grateful to be able to restore these two important programs. "As the pandemic began to close down Massachusetts, we began to worry about a second health crisis. Vaccine clinics are instrumental in stopping the spread of rabies and parvo and suspending this program weighed heavily on my mind." Blancato said she expects the backlog of pets waiting for the spay/neuter program to continue throughout the remainder of 2020. "There are still hundreds of applications awaiting scheduling at each of our locations. We are doing everything we can to get caught up and ask for continued patience."

Pet owners interested in registering their pet for an upcoming vaccine clinic can visit [secondchanceanimals.org](http://secondchanceanimals.org) or watch the Second Chance Animal Services Facebook for registration announcements. The spay/neuter SPOT application, which stands for Stop Pet Overpopulation Today, can also be found on the website. Second Chance is scheduling spay and neuter appointments in the order they were received, so new applicants may not receive a call until September or later. The vaccine clinics and spay/neuter program are available at all Second Chance Community Veterinary Hospitals with locations in North Brookfield, Springfield and Worcester. Full-service veterinary care is also available by appointment, and subsidized rates are available for qualified households.

## PeoplesBank grant helps fund student startup

SPRINGFIELD – PeoplesBank and the Western New England University College of Business's Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship are working together to help students expand their entrepreneurship education beyond the classroom.

The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Western New England University works to develop students' entrepreneurial mindset. Through co-curricular efforts, such as Startup Weekend and the cross-disciplinary business/engineering Product Development and Innovation course, students are able to create ideas, products, and services that have market potential. PeoplesBank is taking this one step further by providing grant funding to advance qualifying startups who show promise and demonstrate success.

Joseph Ferrera, a 2020 graduate of the entrepreneurship program at Western New England University, is the first recipient of a PeoplesBank grant, which was awarded to the university for supporting innovation and entrepreneurial activities, such as Startup Weekend and small grants to student startups.

Ferrera founded the Double O Joe, a Ludow-based videography startup, in his sophomore year and continued to advance the business model through his entrepre-

neurship courses at WNE. He is currently serving several local, small businesses in the greater Springfield area. The grant funded a more advanced drone and a camera in order for Joe to continue to grow his customer base and video offerings.

PeoplesBank First Vice President Matthew Bannister congratulated Joe on his success in starting the business and getting it launched. "We are pleased that our grant could assist Double O Joe in continuing to develop his business. Small businesses, powered by entrepreneurs, are vital to the economic health of our region, and we applaud both Double O Joe and Western New England University for their efforts in this area," said Bannister.

"It is rewarding to see Joe's efforts with his startup be acknowledged through this PeoplesBank grant. He has worked hard on growing the business over the past 18 months," said Dr. Mary Schoonmaker, assistant professor of marketing and entrepreneurship at Western New England University.

Having just celebrated its centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Western New England serves 3,825 students, including 2,580 full-time undergraduate students.

## Virtual 5K to benefit Soldier On scheduled

REGION – Due to the ongoing reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Dynamics Soldier On Golf Tournament Committee has decided to postpone the 10th Annual Golf Tournament until the summer of 2021. This was a difficult decision, but necessary as we greatly value our loyal sponsors, players, volunteers, and community as a whole. It was a risk too great to take.

That said, General Dynamics Soldier On Golf Tournament Committee has shown an overwhelming recommitment to the cause of wanting to support Soldier On.

Starting on Monday, September 28 through Sunday, October 4, General Dynamics Mission Systems – Pittsfield, is hosting the Soldier On Virtual 5K! You are invited to register for the 5K Run/Walk/Jog, the September Cash Calendar, the Soldier On Jacket OR YETI Tumbler, or to bundle all three! To bundle make sure to click here.

Last year's golf tournament raised over \$59,000 for Soldier On, which was only possible with your participation and generosity! The funds raised will go toward ending veteran homelessness in the Berkshires and beyond. Soldier On significantly contributes to the improvement of the community and all proceeds from the event will directly benefit veterans who have served our country.

### Additional 5K Registration details:

5K participants will have the option to register for one of the categories below and will have the whole week to run/walk/jog the event on their own time.

Participants will be required to register and use the JustMove app to compete, as this tool will track your time, distance, and placement.

### 5K Categories include the following:

**Men's/Women's Race:** First place winners will be ranked based on best times as recorded by the JustMove app and will receive a prize.

**Teams Race:** Teams must consist of 4 participants. Times identified in the JustMove app will be combined after the final race day is complete and the First Place Team will receive a prize.

**Just For Fun Race:** This option is for those not looking to compete, but rather participate in the 5K for fun. A prize for this race type will be given out at random.

Please visit the SO5K Facebook Page and help us share this wonderful event for an even greater cause. We will be providing additional event information on our Facebook Page such as the Dine to Donate program, swag pictures, jacket sizes, fun routes in the Berkshires, and more. We hope you tag us in your race pictures!

Questions? Contact us. For registration, call Nick Bourdon (413) 464-3063.

## Baystate Health announces new visitor check-in, effective Monday, Aug. 3

### Staff Report

SPRINGFIELD – For the continued safety of patients, visitors and staff during the coronavirus pandemic, effective Monday, Aug. 3, all Baystate Health hospitals will be implementing a visitor check-in log as part of its visitation policy.

Visitors to Baystate Medical Center and Baystate Children's Hospital in Springfield, Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield, Baystate Noble Hospital in Westfield, and Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer, will be asked to provide their full name and phone number to be recorded in the log, as well as the name of the patient they are visiting. Visitors must also provide a photo ID.

In June, Baystate Health resumed hospital visiting hours which are daily from noon to 8 p.m.

Visitors coming to Baystate Medical Center should allow for extra time for our enhanced check-in process, especially during peak visiting hours from 12 to 1 p.m.

One visitor at a time is allowed in the hospital for non-COVID patients at Baystate Medical Center, Baystate Noble Hospital, Baystate Wing Hospital and Baystate Franklin Medical Center. Baystate Children's Hospital allows one parent/guardian or one visitor of patients. No visitors are allowed in our emergency departments.

No visitors are allowed for COVID patients at all hospitals, except:

Patients under the age of 18 are allowed

one parent or guardian.

OB patients who are in labor are allowed 1 birthing partner.

Hospice patients and end-of-life patients are allowed 1 person and 1 clergy member per day.

Patients with disabilities, including physical and cognitive, are allowed 1 companion.

Visitors must travel directly to and from the patient's room when entering and leaving the hospital and will not be permitted in common areas such as waiting rooms, cafeterias or gift shops.

The visitation process for patients attending outpatient appointments or visiting outpatient practices remains the same, no visitors can accompany patients. Exceptions are as follows:

One parent/guardian for a patient 18 years old or younger.

One companion for patients with disabilities, including physical and cognitive.

Masks must be worn correctly at all times at all Baystate Health facilities. Visitors wearing masks with vents are not allowed and will be issued an approved mask from the hospital.

All visitation is at the discretion of Baystate Health.

For the latest information on visitor guidelines, visit [baystatehealth.org/visitors](http://baystatehealth.org/visitors).

## Putt-A-Thon for Jimmy Fund goes virtual

### Staff Report

BELCHERTOWN– May 2020 was to be the 16th Annual Putt-A-Thon for The Jimmy Fund, but COVID19 made that impossible.

Organizers then hoped to have an early fall event, but due to the COVID-19, they had to adapt to the "new normal."

While so much of our normal lives are on hold right now, what isn't on hold are people still receiving cancer diagnosis. Cancer research is as important as ever, so Putt-A-Thon organizers created a "Virtual Putt-A-Thon" to be held the week of October 5 to 9.

Here's how this year's Putt-A-Thon will happen:

The 16th Annual Virtual Putt-A-Thon will be a full week from Oct. 5 to 9.

To keep the "golf component," organizers tracked down a concept called "Fantasy Golf Scratch Cards" (see photo). The number of cards donors receive will be based on a donation amount to the Putt-A-Thon.

Simply scratch off one golf ball on each hole, add up your score, and let Putt-A-

Thon organizers know your total. Prizes will be awarded for low and high scores!

Donations in any amount are needed – checks payable to The Jimmy Fund can be mailed to Bell & Hudson Insurance, PO Box 669, Belchertown MA 01007 or dropped in Bell & Hudson's locked drop box.

Make an online donation with a credit card on event website: [www.jimmyfund-puttathon.org](http://www.jimmyfund-puttathon.org)

Donations of \$50 and above will receive one scratch ticket. \$100 donations will receive two scratch tickets and an event t-shirt! Visit the Putt-A-Thon website for more information, or email/call Bell & Hudson Insurance ([puttathon@belland-hudson.com](mailto:puttathon@belland-hudson.com)).

Bell & Hudson Insurance Agency is an independent, over 100 years old, award winning agency that offers a broad range of personal, commercial, life and health products for individuals, families, and businesses locally and throughout the region. Their offices are located in Belchertown and West Brookfield.



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## Virtual session set for accounting program

WESTFIELD — The College of Graduate and Continuing Education (CGCE) at Westfield State University will host a virtual information session for the Master of Science in accounting (MSA) program at 6 p.m. Sept. 29 via Zoom.

The graduate program is designed to foster leadership skills and prepare students for successful careers in public and private accounting. It allows students to complete the additional 30-credit hours necessary to fulfill the educational requirements for the Certified Public Accountancy (CPA) license in Massachusetts and several other states.

The program offers a foundation curriculum for students who have a business background but lack the necessary coursework in accounting, to complete a series of pre-requisite courses as part of the master's program. This curriculum can be com-

pleted entirely online with courses offered on a rotating basis (students can also take courses in person). The advanced curriculum is for students with an undergraduate major or concentration in accounting. It is comprised of 10 courses (the majority are offered in a hybrid format and certain courses are 100 percent online) that can be completed in only two semesters. The MSA program offers students flexibility and affordability to achieve a greater degree of sophistication in accounting and auditing.

Information session attendees will have an opportunity to speak with faculty and members of the Outreach Team about the program and its application process. The \$50 application fee will be waived for all attendees. To RSVP, visit [www.GoBackNow.com](http://www.GoBackNow.com). For more information, call 413-572-8020 or email [wsucgce@westfield.ma.edu](mailto:wsucgce@westfield.ma.edu).

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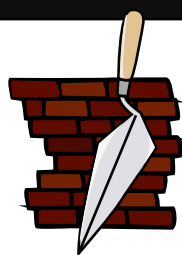
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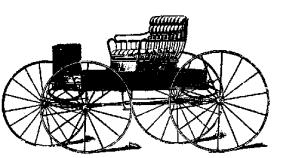
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**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

## XXXXXX

**PALMER 1 BR- QUIET** secure country location. Locked storage & laundry in basement. K/DR combo-LR- full bath. Nice layout. No smoke/pets. F/L/S \$800 Breton Est. **413-283-6940**

## VACATION RENTALS

**WARM WEATHER IS** Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: [carolaction@aol.com](mailto:carolaction@aol.com) for more information.

## FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

## Springfield Armory to offer free guided tours on Fridays, beginning Aug. 28

**SPRINGFIELD** - Following guidance from the White House, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and state and local public health authorities, Springfield Armory National Historic Site is increasing recreational access and services. The National Park Service is working with federal, state, and local public health authorities to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and using a phased approach to increase access on a park-by-park basis.

Beginning Aug. 28, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, in coordination with Springfield Technical Community College, will begin offering ranger guided tours of the historic grounds on Fridays at 11 a.m., weather permitting. Tours will be limited to 10 and pre-registration is required via the park website calendar of events [www.nps.gov/spar](http://www.nps.gov/spar) or Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/sparnhs](http://www.facebook.com/sparnhs). As tours take place on state and federal property, Springfield Technical Community College requires attendees to wear face coverings and practice social distancing.

With public health in mind, the following facilities remain closed to the public at this time:

- Springfield Armory museum and visitor center
  - All public restrooms
  - Park grounds
  - All Springfield Technical Community College buildings
- Superintendent Kelly Fellner said "We are working in close

coordination with Springfield Technical Community College administrators to offer access for our visitors while ensuring the health and wellness of all." During this closure the park is continuing the critical systems upgrades work through the NPS contracted services of Gardner Construction & Industrial Services, Inc. In addition, the park is addressing critical maintenance needs in order to provide new safety and cleaning measures.

The health and safety of our visitors, employees, volunteers, and partners continues to be paramount. At Springfield Armory National Historic Site, our operational approach will be to examine each facility function and service provided to ensure those operations comply with current public health guidance and will be regularly monitored. We continue to work closely with the NPS Office of Public Health using CDC guidance to ensure public and workspaces are safe and clean for visitors, employees, partners, and volunteers.

A safe and enjoyable park experience begins at home. The NPS encourages visitors to plan their visit by checking the park's website and social media for current conditions and travel tips. The CDC has offered guidance to help people recreating in parks and open spaces to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. We ask the public to be our partner in recreating responsibly, by following CDC and state and local guidance, social distancing, and wearing a face covering when social distance cannot be maintained.

## NOTICE

**ERRORS:** Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

## NOTICE - EARLY DEADLINES

*for all Legal Notices to run the week of Sept. 7-11*

*ALL PAPERS will be*  
**FRIDAY, SEPT. 4**  
**AT NOON**

## LOCAL Opportunity IS KNOCKING

### EDITOR POSITION

Award-winning, family-owned Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking an energetic person to join them as editor of two of its weekly papers.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and have telling a community's stories in their DNA. They must also successfully execute an array of tasks including managing a staff writer, copy editing and guiding coverage. The editor is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other companywide publications.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism, who in fact might consider it a calling, and who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, we encourage you to apply for this position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Editing experience and the ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for our editor's position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to  
Managing Editor Eileen Kennedy at [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).

**Turley**  
Publications, Inc.  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)



# Public Notices

**AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
LEGAL  
ADVERTISEMENT  
LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing via Zoom on **Monday, September 14, 2020 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Viktor Savonin, who is seeking a Variance from Ch.180-41 of the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances to be allowed to subdivide a conforming lot into 2 separate nonconforming lots at the premises identified as 71 Maynard Street.

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/94473474362?pwd=TXoxVnl2TTViRmc2TFRsYnhBbExodz09>

Meeting ID: 944 7347 4362  
Passcode: 705226  
One tap mobile  
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US (Chicago)  
+16465588656,,94473474362  
# US (New York)

Doreen A. Prouty  
Chairperson  
Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals  
8/20, 8/27, 9/03/2020

**LEGAL NOTICE  
PUBLIC HEARING**

The Agawam City Council Administrative Subcommittee will conduct a remote Public Hearing on **Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**, in the Dining Room at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. on an Eversource petition for permission to perform work on property located at 270 Main Street, ID #K13-1-5 in Agawam which could include installation of a line of poles, wires, cables and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protect fixtures along and across the property.

Any person wishing to provide testimony during the Public Hearing on this petition may do so by dialing **1-978-990-5187** and using access code **8476635** followed by # sign. **Calls must be made at 6:30pm to provide testimony.**

Robert E. Rossi, Chair  
Administrative Sub-Committee  
8/27, 9/03/2020

**LEGAL  
ADVERTISEMENT  
Town of Agawam  
Brady Village Roof  
Replacement Project**

The Town of Agawam invites sealed Bids for the Agawam Brady Village Roof Replacement Project. The project consists of removal and replacement of asphalt shingle roofs at least six and up to nine low-rise wood-frame apartment buildings, including porches, along with repairs to flashings, trim, and gutters and downspouts.

Plans and Specifications have been prepared by Clark & Green Architect, Inc., of 113 Bridge Street, Great Barrington, MA. This project is being administered by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and

Community Development (DHCD) FY 2019 Agawam Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The work is estimated to cost approximately \$270,600.

Bid forms and contract documents will be available electronically only beginning on **Wednesday, August 26, 2020 from 9:00 AM** by contacting ProjectDog.com.

Bids are subject to M.G.L., Chapter 149 Sections 44A-J and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. Chapter 149 Sections 26-27H inclusive. Federal wages and Davis-Bacon also applies.

General Bids will be received until **3:00 P.M., Friday, September 18, 2020** and will be opened live at this time on ProjectDog.com.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) in the category of Roofing.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates), and made payable to the Agawam Housing Authority.

The Town of Agawam encourages, to the extent feasible, the use of minority, women and disadvantaged-owned businesses for work under this contract and likewise encourages, to the greatest extent possible, that all bidders take affirmative steps to ensure training and employment for lower-income project area residents and award of subcontracts to HUD-defined Section 3 businesses. Bidders on the work shall make a good faith effort to achieve the goals of the Federal Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) policy regarding utilization of MBEs and WBEs in order to be deemed a responsible bidder.

Bids may be changed or withdrawn prior to the bid opening, but not within the sixty (60) days subsequent to the bid opening, by submission of such a change in writing in a sealed envelope, identifying the submitting party and indicating that it contains a correction of the bid for said project.

The lowest qualified responsible bidder shall be awarded the contract subject to availability of funds under the DHCD and the respective DHCD Block Grant. The Town of Agawam may cancel this invitation for Bid (IFB), in whole or in part, at any time that such an act is deemed in its best interest. The Town of Agawam reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidder or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town. The Town and PVPC will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a response to this IFB.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference and exterior tour will be conducted on **Wednesday, September 9,**

**2020 at 10:00AM.** Questions regarding the bid specifications should be directed to Steve McAlister, Clark and Green Architects, Inc. at 413-528-5180 x102. General questions about the project may be directed to Chris Dunphy at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, [cdunphy@pvpc.org](mailto:cdunphy@pvpc.org). 413-781-6045.  
8/27/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD20P1347EA**  
Estate of:  
**Anne M Houlihan**  
**Date of Death: 05/29/2020**  
**CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Barbara Owczarski** of Agawam MA and **Thomas J Sullivan** of E Longmeadow MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Barbara Owczarski** of Agawam MA and **Thomas J Sullivan** of E Longmeadow MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/17/2020.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE  
MASSACHUSETTS  
UNIFORM PROBATE  
CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 13, 2020

**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate

8/27/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-8600**

**Docket No. HD20P1274EA**  
Estate of:  
**Marjorie Deborah Moraes**  
Also Known As:  
**Marjorie D. Moraes**  
**Date of Death:**  
**December 11, 2019**  
**INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Deirdre D. Moraes** of East Longmeadow, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Deirdre D. Moraes** of East Longmeadow, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
8/27/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-8600**

**Docket No. HP20P1339EA**  
Estate of:  
**Maria Scuderi**  
**Date of Death:**  
**June 15, 2020**  
**INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Carmelo A. Scuderi** of Russell, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Carmelo A. Scuderi** of Russell, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the

Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
8/27/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-8600**

**Docket No. HD20P1333EA**  
Estate of:  
**MILDRED D  
TRICINELLA**  
**Date of Death:**  
**March 15, 2020**  
**INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **MARY PAIER POWERS** of WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**MARY PAIER POWERS** of WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
8/27/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD20P1327EA**  
Estate of:  
**Phyllis Ann Weinle**  
**Date of Death: 07/22/2020**  
**CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by Melissa

**Micheala Dorman** of Springfield MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Melissa Micheala Dorman** of Springfield MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/08/2020.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION  
UNDER THE  
MASSACHUSETTS  
UNIFORM PROBATE  
CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 12, 2020

**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
8/27/2020



**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR WEB SITE  
**PUBLIC NOTICES**  
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3

Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

VISIT  
[www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.



3

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